

(d) whether Khadi from Karnataka is purchased by the Railways and the Government departments under the rate contract; and

(e) if so, the amount of Khadi procured so far by Government departments during 2000-2001 from Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission collects and compiles State-wise production data on yearly basis. The requisite information for the year 2000-01 has not been compiled as yet.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Thirteen institutions from Karnataka are enlisted with the KVIC for supplies to Government departments, however, supplies are being made only to the Indian Railways.

(d) and (e) Only the Railways is purchasing Khadi through rate contract and Khadi worth Rs. 197 lakhs has been purchased from Karnataka during 2000-2001.

Small Scale Industry year

† 4546. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had observed the year 2000 as Small Scale Industry Year;

(b) if so, the schemes implemented during the said year;

(c) whether there is a proposal to create employment opportunities at the local level in rural and adivasi areas under the aforesaid programmes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, apart from the regular schemes of Government for the sector, a Comprehensive Policy Package was announced on 30th August, 2000, to strengthen the SSI sector and enhance its competitiveness both domestically and globally. The Policy Package *inter-alia* includes easier access to credit, availability of collateral free composite loans upto Rs. 25.00 lakhs, capital subsidy for technological upgradation and improved infrastructure.

(c) and (d) Special thrust is given to creating employment opportunities in rural and adivasi areas through schemes like Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for self employment for educated unemployed youth, National Programme for Rural Industrialisation for rural clusters, Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and Integrated Infrastructure Development (IID) Centres.

Package for disbursing loan

† 4547, PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have any package for disbursing easy loan to the established small scale industry in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government have taken any steps to make small scale sector liberalize and to develop the same as a major export sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The Government

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.